



SOLVE

Save Our Little Vermillion Environment

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July 18, 2001

Docket Coordinator Headquarters
USEPA C.E.R.C.L.A. Docket Office
Mail Code 52016
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.



Dear Coordinator,

S.O.L.V.E. is an incorporated non-profit environmental group dedicated to the preservation of the Little Vermillion River and its vitality. We strongly recommend that the Matthiessen and Hegeler Zinc Company site (NPL-U36-2-6-R5) be placed on the Superfund List and immediate attention be given to the cleanup project.

We're deeply concerned with the impact of leaching of contaminants into the Little Vermillion River which is the primary recharge source for water in the City of La Salle and the 9,881+ inhabitants within a mile of the site. In 1993, when the original testing was done this site was on the eastern edge of town but La Salle has expanded considerably to the east and north, thus the site is in the center of town.

We have reviewed the Hazardous Ranking Scoring Package and have met with Robert Casper in 1995. The problems, ie. ground, water, air and food contamination, as identified by the IEPA are of grave concern to us and we are anxious to attend informal public meetings as well as a public hearing.

On a recent tour of the Little Vermillion River, clinker piled up at the mouth of the river, downstream approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the M&H site, indicates movement or migration from the upstream site. There are also concerns about contamination of adjacent public and private properties including nearby schools and parks. This site is an impediment to the continuing development of the Little Vermillion River Valley as a recreational greenway!

In conclusion, SOLVE strongly supports the IEPA'S recommendation that the Matthiessen and Hegeler Zinc Co. site be added to the priority Superfund List.

Sincerely,

William Wallock
William Wallock, President



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency
Washington, DC 20460

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use
\$300

Rec'd

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U.S. EPA, Records Center
Waste Management Division

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